

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant is enclosing a Form PTO1449 along with a copy of each of the references. This submission is made pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.56 and 1.97. Applicant does not render an opinion of whether any of the cited references anticipate or render obvious the claimed invention, but requests Examiner to carefully review the references to reach an independent evaluation of its effect on patentability. If any fees are required, please charge them to BRACEWELL & PATTERSON LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0259.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: MARCH 6, 2002

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